## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA BRYSON CITY DIVISION

CIVIL CASE NO. 2:11cv29

FRANCIS T. ALLEN,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
vs.	) ORDER OF REMAND
MICHAEL J. ASTRUE,	)
Commissioner of Social Security,	)
Defendant.	)
	)

**THIS MATTER** is before the Court on the Defendant's Motion for Reversal and Remand pursuant to Sentence Four of 42 U.S.C. Section 405(g) [Doc. 15]. The Plaintiff consents to the motion.

Sentence Four of 42 U.S.C. §405(g) provides, in pertinent part, that "[t]he court shall have power to enter, upon the pleadings and transcript of the record, a judgment affirming, modifying, or reversing the decision of the Commissioner of Social Security, with or without remanding the cause for a rehearing." The parties here have moved for reversal of the decision of the Defendant and for remand for further administrative proceedings. Specifically, the parties seek remand for a new hearing.

Upon remand to the Commissioner, the Appeals Council shall remand this case to the administrative law judge (ALJ). The Appeals Council will instruct the ALJ to: (1) conduct a new hearing and issue a new decision; (2) obtain school records, if possible, from the school which the Plaintiff attended as a child for the purpose of learning to lip read; (3) consider the additional evidence associated with the Plaintiff's subsequent favorable decision dated October 4, 2011 [Doc. 14]; (4) obtain testimony from a medical expert to assist in clarifying the severity of the Plaintiff's hearing impairment; and (5) if necessary, reassess the Plaintiff's residual functional capacity and obtain supplemental evidence from a vocational expert. The Court finds remand is appropriate. Melkonyan v. Sullivan, 501 U.S. 89, 111 S.Ct. 2157, 115 L.Ed.2d 78 (1991).

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Defendant's Motion for Reversal and Remand pursuant to Sentence Four of 42 U.S.C. §405(g) [Doc. 15] is hereby **GRANTED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the decision of the Commissioner of Social Security is hereby REVERSED and the case is hereby REMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon remand, the Commissioner shall comply with the directives contained within this Order.

The Clerk of Court shall enter separate Judgment of Remand simultaneously herewith. The Clerk of Court is notified that this is a final judgment closing the case.

Signed: February 17, 2012

Martin Reidinger

United States District Judge